

**TESTIMONY OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND  
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

**NEITHER FOR NOR AGAINST L.D. 799**

**“An Act To Stimulate the Economy and Invigorate the Hunting Industry by  
Establishing a Pilot Project To Allow Hunting on Sundays in Limited Areas”**

**SPONSORED BY: Representative CHACE of Durham**

CO-SPONSORED BY: Representatives DUCHESNE of Hudson, McCABE of  
Skowhegan, PIERCE of Dresden, POULIOT of Augusta,  
STETKIS of Canaan, and Senator HAMPER of Oxford.

**DATE OF HEARING: April 7, 2015**

Good afternoon Senator Davis, Representative Shaw and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. I am Jim Connolly, Resource Management Director at the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, speaking on behalf of the Department, neither for nor against **L.D. 799**.

This bill proposes to establish a pilot project, until January 1, 2018 to allow hunting on Sundays in wildlife management district's 1 to 14, 17, 19 and 28 for any species during the open season on that species. This bill requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters on January 1, 2017 regarding the status of the pilot project and recommendations as to whether the project should be expanded, modified, reduced or terminated.

As stated in previous testimony related to Sunday hunting, we do understand that Sunday hunting could provide potential economic growth and additional opportunity to hunters. At the same time, we recognize that landowners prefer to have Sunday as a day that they can enjoy their land and allow other stewards opportunity to recreate without hunting related concerns.

I would be glad to answer any questions at this time or during the work session.